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THE SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA:
THREATS TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE
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INITIATIVES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 15 August 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Guatemala to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of a press release issued yesterday by the Government of Guatemala in connection with Belize (see annex), expressly recognizing its right to self-determination. This statement is designed to facilitate negotiations between Guatemala and Belize with a view to finding a definitive solution that is just and honourable for both parties.

I should be grateful if you would have the above-mentioned communication distributed as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 31 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Francisco VILLAGRAN DE LEON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/46/150.

ANNEX

Press release issued by the Guatemalan Government
on 14 August 1991

The Government of Guatemala, in the light of recent speculation about the case of Belize and taking into account that Belize has been recognized internationally as a member of numerous international organizations, states that it is the desire of the people of Guatemala to live in peace and harmony with their neighbours and to establish ties of friendship and cooperation with the nations of the Carribean Community.

It therefore declares that, in keeping with the spirit of the Constitution of the Republic of Guatemala and international law, it recognizes the right of the people of Belize to self-determination. The Government of Guatemala also states that, in accordance with provisional article 19 of the Constitution, it will continue negotiating and will pursue all civilized, legal means leading to a definitive solution of the territorial dispute.